Could not out-peer these twain.
Pardon me, gods!
I'd change my sex to be companion with them, Since Leonatus false[5].

BEL. It shall be so :
Boys, we'll go dress our hunt.—Fair youth, come in:

but I do not see why *differing* may not be a general epithet, and the expression equivalent to the *many-headed* rabble. JOHNSON.

It certainly may; but then nothing is predicated of the many-headed multitude, unless we supply words that the text does not exhibit, " That worthless boon of the *differing* or many-headed multitude, *[attending upon them, and paying their court to them i* " or suppose the whole line to be a periphrasis for *adulation* or *obeisance.*

There was no such word as *defering* or *deferring* in Shak-speare's time. " *Deferer* a une compaigne," Cotgrave, in his Dictionary, 1611, explains thus: "To yeeld, *referre,* or attribute much, unto a companie." MALONE.

That *nothing gift* which the multitude are supposed to bestow, is glory, reputation, which is a present of little value from their hands; as they are neither unanimous in giving it, nor constant in continuing it. HEATH.

I believe the o d to be the right reading. *Differing multitudes* means *unsteady multitudes,* who are continually changing their opinions, and condemn to-day what they yesterday applauded.

M. MASON.

Mr. M. Mason's explanation is just. So, in the Induction to The Second Part of King Henry IV.:

" The still *discordant, wavering* multitude."

STEEVENS.

[s] Since Leanatus false.] Mr. M. Mason would read :

" Since Leonatus *is* false."

but this conjecture is injurious to the metre. If we are to connect the words in question with the preceding line, and suppose that Imogen has completed all she meant to say, we might read : ** Since Leonate is false."

Thus, for the convenience of versification, Shakspeare sometimes calls Prospero, Prosper, and Enobarbus, Enobarbe.

STEEVENS.

As Shakspeare has used " thy *mistress'* ear," and [t *Menelaus* tent," for thy *mistresses* ear, and *Menelauses* tent, so, with still greater licence, he uses—Since *Leonatus jalse,* for—Since Leonatus *is* false. MALONE.

Of such a licence, I believe, there is no example either in the works of Shakspeare, or of any other author. STEEVENS,